

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/678,905

Examiner

Shawntina T. Fuqua

Applicant(s)

DOH ET AL.

Art Unit

3742

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to notice of appeal filed 8/23/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,9-15,17-21,23-28 and 306.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

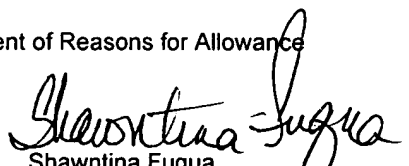
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Shawntina Fuqua
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3742

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 1, 3-6, 9-15, 17-21, and 23-28 are allowed.
2. Upon further consideration, the Examiner agrees with the Applicant wherein the original specification discloses filling the vessel with a predetermined quantity of water (specification, page 7, lines 18-20, heating the water in the vessel (specification, page 7, lines 27-28), and after heating, draining the quantity of water from the vessel (specification, page 2, lines 28-30, page 3, lines 3-5, page 8, lines 17-19). The quantity of water implies all of the predetermined amount/the entire predetermined amount of water initially supplied to the vessel. In addition, the object of the invention is to remove micro-organisms from the water (specification, page 3, lines 11-13) which is most efficiently accomplished by emptying the complete contents of the vessel. Furthermore, according to the dictionary, to drain means emptying (see attachment 1).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

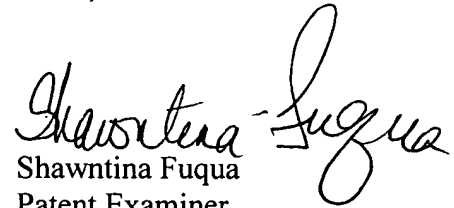
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawntina T. Fuqua whose telephone number is (571) 272-4779. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4:30 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on (571) 272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

stf
April 30, 2006


Shawntina Fuqua
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3742

Attachment 1


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We found 39 dictionaries with English definitions that include the word *drain*:

Tip: Click on the first link on a line below to go directly to a page where "drain" is defined.

➤ **General** (23 matching dictionaries)

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11. [drain](#) (v.) : Online Etymology Dictionary [[home](#), [info](#)]
12. [Drain](#), [drain](#) : UltraLingua English Dictionary [[home](#), [info](#)]
13. [drain](#) : Cambridge Dictionary of American English [[home](#), [info](#)]
14. [drain](#) : Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms [[home](#), [info](#)]
15. [Drain](#) : Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia [[home](#), [info](#)]
16. [Drain](#) : Online Plain Text English Dictionary [[home](#), [info](#)]
17. [drain](#) : Webster's Revised Unabridged, 1913 Edition [[home](#), [info](#)]
18. [drain](#) : Rhymezone [[home](#), [info](#)]
19. [drain](#) : AllWords.com Multi-Lingual Dictionary [[home](#), [info](#)]
20. [drain](#) : Webster's 1828 Dictionary [[home](#), [info](#)]
21. [Drain](#) : Columbia Gazetteer of North America [[home](#), [info](#)]
22. [drain](#) : WordNet 1.7 Vocabulary Helper [[home](#), [info](#)]
23. [Drain](#), [drain](#) : LookWAYup Translating Dictionary/Thesaurus

Quick definitions (*drain*)

- **noun:** emptying accomplished by draining
- **noun:** a gradual depletion of energy or resources (Example: "A drain on resources")
- **noun:** a pipe through which liquid is carried away
- **noun:** tube inserted into a body cavity (as during surgery) to remove unwanted material
- **verb:** flow off gradually (Example: "The rain water drains into this big vat")
- **verb:** empty of liquid; drain the liquid from (Example: "We drained the oil tank")
- **verb:** deplete of resources (Example: "The exercise class drains me of energy")
- **verb:** make weak (Example: "Life in the camp drained him")
- **name:** A surname